

Plant-out-of-place Licorice Plant



Plant-out-of-place Tocalote



Plant-out-of-place Iberian Starthistle



EXOTIC HERB Iberian Starthistle

(*Centaurea iberica*)

Description

- Erect annual plant ½-4 ft tall
- Numerous small (½ in wide) purple, white, or pink flower heads surrounded by long, sharp spines
- Young leaves are deeply lobed, green with sparse bristles
- Mature leaves 4-8 in long, without hairs
- Stems without “winged” ridges
- Young plants form a rosette (circular cluster of leaves)

Habitat

- Agricultural, grasslands, roadsides, disturbed areas

Don't confuse with...

Purple Starthistle

(*Centaurea calcitrapa*) which has:

- Purple flower heads slightly smaller (¼ in wide) than Iberian starthistle
- Has no pappus (bristle on seed)
- Also a plant-out-of-place



Iberian Starthistle seed (left)
Purple Starthistle seed (right)



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EXOTIC HERB Tocalote

(*Centaurea melitensis*)

Description

- Erect annual plant to 3 ft
- Numerous small bright yellow flower heads surrounded by purple-based 1/2-in-long spines
- Mature leaves grey-green and rough, unlobed (see middle image, front)
- Stems are “winged”
- Young plants form a rosette (circular cluster of leaves)
- Also known as Napa Thistle and Malta Starthistle

Habitat

- Agricultural, grasslands, roadsides, disturbed areas

Don't confuse with...

Yellow Starthistle

(*Centaurea solstitialis*) which has:

- Flower heads with 1-in yellow spines
- Grows to 6 ft
- Leaves with 1-2 lobes
- Also a plant-out-of-place



Tocalote



Yellow Starthistle

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EXOTIC SHRUB Licorice Plant

(*Helichrysum petiolare*)

Description

- Mounding silvery-green shrub to 4 ft
- Dense clusters of creamy white flowers 1-2 in across
- Rounded heart-shaped leaves, up to 1 in, silvery light green to white with dense white hairs on both sides.
- Dense, round, slightly hairy stems

Habitat

- Coastal scrub and grasslands

Don't confuse with...

Buckwheat

(*Eriogonum* sp.) which has:

- 2-3-in pink clusters of flowers
- Broader, mostly basal leaves

Lizardtail

(*Eriophyllum staechadifolium*) which has:

- 2-3-in yellow clusters of flowers
- Deeply lobed leaves

California Sagebrush

(*Artemisia californica*) which has:

- Deeply lobed, thread-like leaves
- Pleasant scent



Coast Buckwheat (above)



Lizardtail (top)



California Sagebrush (bottom)

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